INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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SOVIET MORALE, SECURITY AND PROPAGANDA

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25X1 -3-25X1 SOVIET INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AND MORALE MATTERS 1 MORALE FACTORS 1. Dependents of Soviet Personnel Living in Germany 25X1 During the summer of 1954, the CO of the 3d Platoon, 2d Co, 93d Sep Security Bn, was receiving extra money because his wife was living with him in East Germany. 1 Since the officer's wife dic25X1 not work. current Soviet Military policy encouraged wives of Soviet officers to join their husbands in Germany. 25X1 single officers were rotated to the USSR after three years in East Germany unless they were proficient in the German language. However, married officers whose wives were living with them in Germany remained there indefinitely. 2. Leaves officers and re-enlistees (sverkhsrochniky) were 25X1 authorized leaves every year! the length of such leaves. were for about one month a year. Other EM were only authorized compassionate leaves, which were also granted to officers and career NCO's when applicable. in the 2d Co, 93d Sep Security Bn, from Oct 52 to Nov 54, at least ten individuals, including a lieutenant platoon leader as well as several NCO's and privates, returned to the USSR on compassionate leaves. These soldiers would receive ten days exclusive of travel time . received compassionate leaves for the death of either parent or "because their house burnt down". 1 The family in the USSR obtained an affidavit from the hospital or from the doctor to the effect that either parent had died. This affidavit was verified and certified by the local Voyenkomat and sent to the soldier in Germany. The soldier then applied for compassionate leave through his immediate CO, who would send the application up through channels. 25X1 it took about two to three months to obtain it. 1 soldiers were supposed to receive leaves for superior performance of their duties, but no cases where such meritorious leaves were actually granted 25X1 there were netastual complaints 25X1 against the leave system, but the conscripts often inquired from the officers why they were not granted leaves. The officers replied that in the case of Soviet enlisted personnel only meritorious leaves were provided for by regulations, and those could only be obtained as a reward for outstanding performance of duty. 25X1

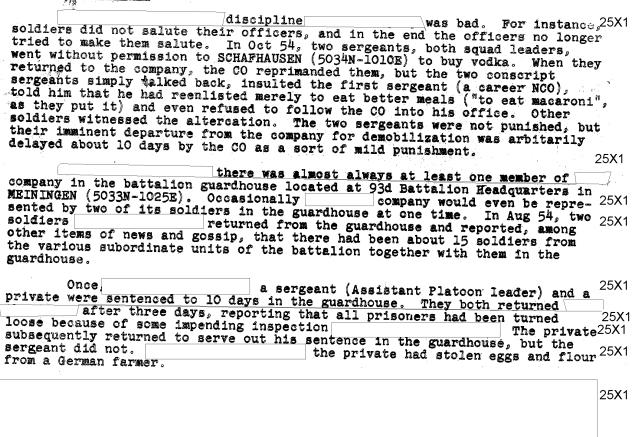
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25X1





being drunk in the battalion officers had apparently accused a sergeant of 25X1 being drunk in the battalion headquarters area. The sergeant argued the point; and the officers called the CQ on duty, also a sergeant, and ordered him to tie the offending sergeant's hands and take him to the guardhouse. The CQ refused. The two officers then summoned two other soldiers and ordered them to do the same thing they had asked the CQ to do, but the soldiers also refused to obey. As a result, all four EM ended up in the guardhouse

sergeant who had been actused of being drunk refused to be in one cell with the privates, so the four privates were moved to another cell with the other sergeant (the CQ), who did not object to staying in the same cell with them. The other three sergeants remained together in a second room. The following day, the two sergeants and the two privates that were involved in the dispute with the two officers were again released.

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25X1

There was a great deal of	drunkenness 25X1
all soldiers	drank and there was one case of drunken-
ness just about every day. The o	only source of alcoholic beverages was the Ger-
in the guardhouse over a one-year	the rules against fraternization, these purchases was sentenced to over 70 days 25X1 period, at different times and all for 25X1
drunkenness. At one time he was	sentenced to the guardhouse three consecutive ving the guardhouse, he had immediately gone
out and become drunk again.	ting one guardiouse, he had immediately gone
In Mar 54,	. a lieutement, was also restricted to

quarters , a lieutenant, was also restricted to 25X1

In the fall of 1953, CO and a sergeant, (assistant platoon) in the company went to MEININGEN and somehow got drunk together there. They fought together, but nothing further happened. The sergeant involved merely told the story to the soldiers Once in 1954.

went on patrol As they left for their patrol 25X1 duty, they observed one of their officers, pletely drunk and staggering along the road. When they returned from that same patrol, they saw their first sergeant lying dead drunk along a fence on the road, practically in the gutter.

4. Venereal Disease

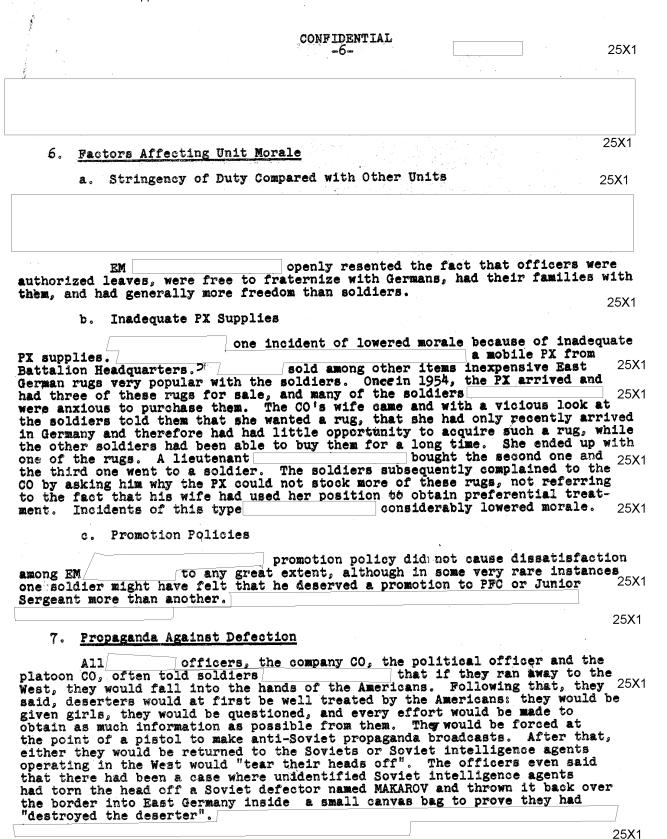
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In either Jul or Aug 54, a private, one of the drivers in the 2d Co, 93d Sep Security Bn, contracted the private in question drove the Willys jeep for the company officers and therefore had many opportunities to fraternize with German girls. The driver was sent to the Soviet hospital in ERFURT where there was a venereal disease ward. 3 Upon his release from the hospital, this private was reassigned to the 1st Co, 93d Sep Security Bn. 2

5. <u>Disobedience of Orders</u>

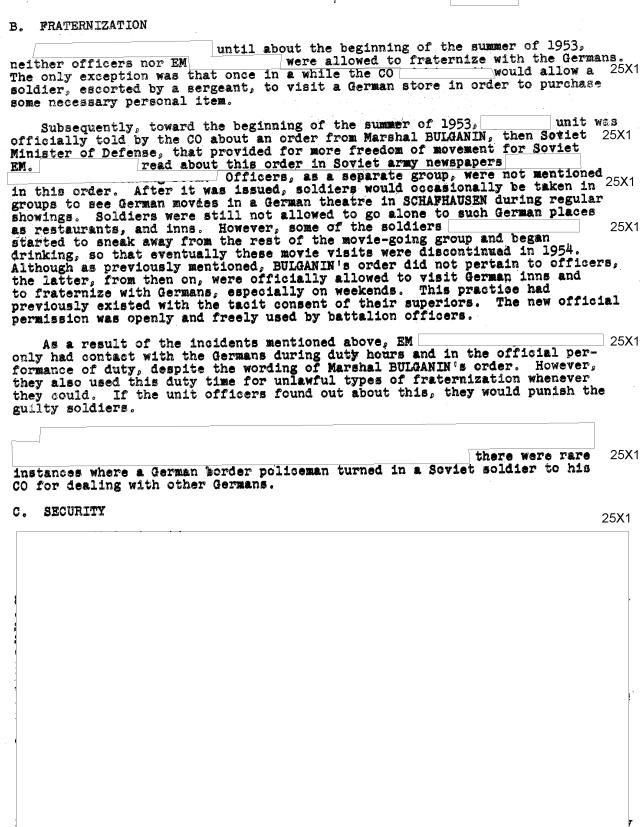
there were frequent incidents of disobedience and one case where the first sergeant ordered a private who had just returned from border patro 25X1 duty to report for a cleaning detail. The private refused because he wanted to eat first, as was the custom. The first sergeant reprimanded him for his insubordination and then called the CO in the face of the private's continuing refusal to obey. Eventually this private was compelled to perform the work detail and wash out the latrine besides; his head was also shaven in punishment.

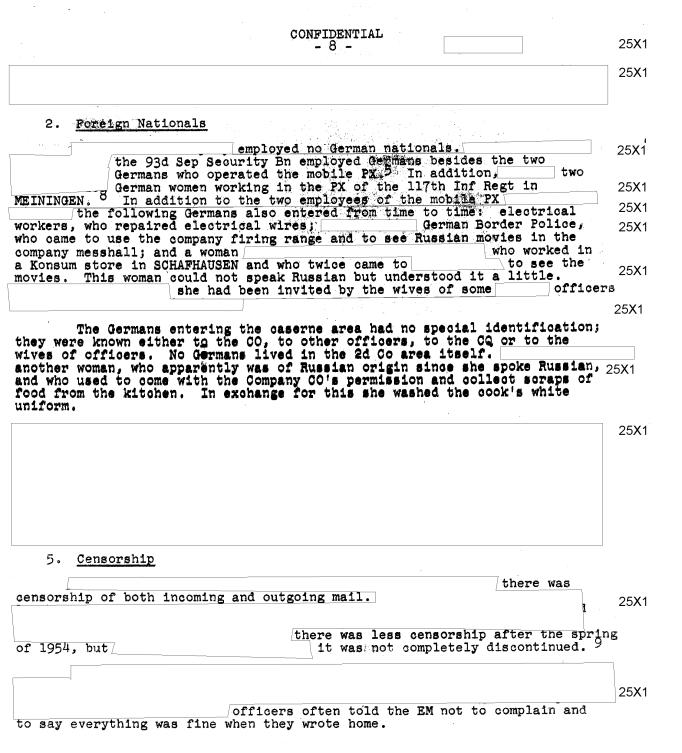
Shaving soldiers' heads was a form of punishment frequently used especially for soldiers in their third year of compulsory 25X1 first two years. Once, in this connection, the first sergeant25X1 of the 1st Co, 93d Sep Security Bn tried to shave a soldier's head by force. The latter offered much resistence, and in the resulting scuffle the soldier's head was knocked against a wall and broken. Inasmuch as the CO of the 1st Cc25X1 happened to be at battalion headquarters in MEININGEN at that time, the first sergeant called him on the phone for further instructions.



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25X1





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orge a soldier had written	
one a series to obtain a false affidavit from a doctor. So	25 X ′
	25X′
6. Restrictions on Photography	
a. For EM	
only two soldiers had cameras,	
end of 1953. At first they took pictures freely, but in the spring of 1954, a battalion order forbade the use of cameras and taking of pictures. Then all cameras	25 X ′
had to be handed in to the first sergeant for safekeeping. They would be returned to soldiers upon their demobilization. Any camera not turned in and found on a soldier would be confiscated.	25 X ′
b. For Officers	
However, officers were still allowed to possess cameras and to use them, although only one of the officers	
Ofuel Ulische Bud of soldiels and deaelohed and ittm andwestage of any contact.	25 X ′
	25X′
7. Kommandaturas and Kommandatura Patrols	
there was a Soviet Kommandatura in MEININGEN and one at the railroad station in ERFURT.	25 X 1
patrols were usually composed of one officer armed with a pistol and of two	25X1
8. Protection of Classified Documents	:
cabinet which contained password lists and other classified	25X′
documents. Officers nad access to this capinet.	25 X ′
	20/
9. Wearing of Civilian Clothes	
in the vicinity of	
KAMYSHLOV (5650N-6240E) sergeants were allowed to go on pass in civilian clothes. However, in East Germany no one ever wore civilian	25X1
	25 X ′
D. PROPAGANDA	
1. Foreign Broadcasts	
Once in 1954 heard a Voice of America broadcast about a	25 X 1
certain Vassily TERKI over the radio The broadcast explained that under the Soviet regime gruel (kasha) had deteriorated and had been watered down.	25X1
all agreed that indeed, Soviet Kasha was inferior	
in quality to pre-Soviet Kasha.	
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25X1

25X1

Soldiers were not allowed to listen to Western broadcasts. Following inadvertently turned on a an incident, where some soldier 25X1 Voice of America broadcast in Russian and then walked away, the radio was placed in the company medic's room under the latter's supervision. 10

2. Reactions to Political Training

had four hours a week of political Soldiers training. they did not like political training and lectures and even preferred tactical training, close-order drill and weapons 25X1 instruction or firing practice to any political training. Some soldiers would even hide in the latrine miss political training sessions. soldiers dodged political training assemblies to such an 25X1 extent that in order to force them to attend, the political officer resorted After the to calling an alert 25X1 soldiers had fallen out for the alert they were immediately marched off to Political Training class.

3. Political Training Methods

At these training meetings, the political officer would usually read to the soldiers out of a book or a newspapers for about one hour. The themes were usually the following: History of the 1918-21 Civil War in Russia, Life in the USSR (Good) versus life in the USA (Bad); Good discipline in the Soviet Army versus noon discipline in the USA (Bad);

the Soviet Army versus poor discipline in the US Army (where, American officers had to literally beat American soldiers into subordination); American preparations and armament for war; the USSR surrounded by 25X1 capitalistic bases; and spies sent by capitalistic countries into the USSR. Following the officer's presentation of the above subjects, soldiers with the aid of pamphlets had to write in their notebooks what they remembered Then they would have to summarize the main points about the various themes. in their own words. In addition to these four hours of political training, they had two lectures a week some time during the evening. These lectures were usually based on articles from three Soviet newspapers, Sovyetskaya Armiya, Pravda, and Komsomolskaya Pravda. This would be followed by discussion or question-and-answer periods.

25X1

